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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017*

Part XI
Capital expenditures

Section 33
Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance

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** A summary of the approved programme budget will be issued as A/70/6/Add.1.

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Overview

Table 33.1 **Financial resources**

(United States dollars)

Approved resources for 2014-2015	109 864 500
Technical adjustments (removal of non-recurrent requirements)	(52 012 100)
New mandates and inter-component changes	21 748 000
Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reduction)	(281 800)
Total resource change	(30 545 900)
Proposal of the Secretary-General for 2016-2017[a]	79 318 600

[a] At 2014-2015 revised rates.

Overall orientation

33.1 The resource requirements for capital expenditure-related activity consisting of alteration and improvement to, and major maintenance of, the principal properties and infrastructure of the United Nations worldwide are set out in the present section. This includes the modernization of existing buildings and technical installations. Resources are requested centrally under this section to ensure a coherent and systematic approach to facilities management, major maintenance and construction and information and communications technology operations. It should be noted that the staff and related costs for the administration and management of the activities proposed in the present section are included under the respective main sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for United Nations Headquarters, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna, the United Nations Office at Nairobi, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Section 33 does not cover requirements for post or post-related costs, with the exception of general temporary assistance positions that have been approved by the General Assembly in respect of specific time-bound capital projects.

33.2 The long-established criteria used to decide whether a project is categorized under alteration and improvement work or under major maintenance work are as follows:

(a) Projects that are capital-intensive and of a structural nature that would substantially alter or improve facilities or infrastructure, whether physical or information technology, are classified under alteration and improvement;

(b) Projects to repair or replace existing installations (e.g., heating, ventilation and air conditioning) and systems (e.g., electrical, information technology and security), or to generally maintain facilities and services in good working order, are classified under major maintenance.

33.3 With regard to the major maintenance component of the proposals set out in section 33, the majority of projects are recurrent, reflecting ongoing activities to ensure that buildings are maintained in good working order and that the physical and information technology infrastructure is robust, mitigating disruption of operational services. Conversely, alteration and improvement

work typically consists of one-time, non-recurrent projects that, owing to their scale and complexity, may span more than one biennium (multi-year projects).

33.4 The projects included under this section relate to: (a) subprogramme 4, Support services, subprogramme 5, Information and communications technology strategic management and coordination, and subprogramme 6, Information and communications technology operations, of A, Headquarters; and (b) subprogramme 4, Support services, and subprogramme 6, Information and communications technology operations, of B, United Nations Office at Geneva, C, United Nations Office at Vienna, and D, United Nations Office at Nairobi, of programme 25, Management and support services, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6/Rev.1).

33.5 The overall objectives of the subprogrammes are to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of the Secretariat with regard to office and conference facilities and asset management, and to ensure the efficient, effective and transparent achievement of the strategic, functional and operational goals of the Organization by leveraging information and communications technology. Expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement related to the accomplishment of these objectives are included within the logical framework of the Office of Central Support Services, the Office of Information and Communications Technology, and the administrative services at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi.

33.6 At Headquarters, the projects proposed under the section fall under the responsibility of the Office of Central Support Services and the Office of Information and Communications Technology, as appropriate. The administrative services at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi and the regional commissions are responsible within their respective spheres for the implementation of the projects under this section and the administration of related resources. The proposed projects relating to the safety and security of the United Nations premises in all main locations will be implemented in close coordination with the Department of Safety and Security.

33.7 In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/220, the Office of Central Support Services will exercise its coordinating role in providing integrated and coordinated management policy and guidelines and technical assistance to locations outside Headquarters in the implementation of facilities management projects. The Office of Central Support Services has utilized capacity within its existing organizational structure to provide advice and guidance for a number of overseas projects. Capacity within the Office was strengthened in the biennium 2010-2011 through the establishment of the Overseas Property Management Unit under the Facilities Management Service. The Unit is responsible for the provision of guidance, support and technical advice to offices away from Headquarters and regional commissions in the planning, management and monitoring of their major construction projects. The General Assembly, for example in its resolution 69/262, has reiterated that the Office should provide support for the implementation of overseas facilities management projects and emphasized the importance of guidance, interaction and coordination between the United Nations Secretariat in New York and other duty stations.

33.8 The Secretary-General, in his report A/69/760, presented the results of the strategic capital review[1] to the General Assembly for its consideration. The report presented a 20-year capital maintenance programme for the period from 2018 to 2037 covering the owned and leased buildings at eight main locations (New York, Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut, and Santiago) and 20 subregional commission locations. The strategic capital review is currently in the third

[1] The strategic capital review has been developed in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 65/259 and 68/247 B. It is coordinated by the Overseas Properties Management Unit of the Office of Central Support Services in close coordination with the interim Property Management Unit, International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) project team and the Umoja project team to ensure continuity in organizational initiatives and policies relating to real estate management.

stage of the three-stage process, which includes the development and establishment of a rolling database to be used for monitoring and reporting on project performance.

33.9 In its resolution 69/262, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to better assess the potential costs and benefits of a preventive maintenance programme, as compared with the existing reactive approach, and reaffirmed that any potential proposals stemming from the strategic capital review with budgetary implications should follow the procedure set out in the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations. Accordingly, the proposed resource requirements under this section have been prepared on the basis of the established methodology, but taking into consideration the results of the strategic capital review.

33.10 With regard to the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, the Office of Central Support Services reviewed the proposed activities for which resources would be requested under section 33 for each of the offices away from Headquarters and the regional commissions, providing technical guidance and advice, as necessary, to ensure efficient planning and estimation of costs, in respect of the properties of the Organization and their effective overall management.

33.11 The Office of Information and Communications Technology was established pursuant to resolution 63/262, and provides central leadership in the establishment and implementation of Organization-wide information and communications technology strategy and standards and ensures efficient utilization of resources in the modernization of information systems and the improvement of information and communications services. The Office sets the overall strategic direction and provides enterprise systems and infrastructure with a view to achieving coherence and coordination. In that context, the Office of Information and Communications Technology is responsible for centrally administering projects for upgrading the global network infrastructure in offices away from Headquarters and regional commissions, through the implementation of the enterprise network project, which is aimed at standardizing the network infrastructure equipment and bringing all networks worldwide to the same standard of functionality, quality and reliability.

Overview of resources

33.12 The overall resources proposed for the biennium 2016-2017 for this budget section amount to $79,318,600 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of $30,545,900 (or 27.8 per cent) compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015. Resource changes result from three factors, namely: (a) technical adjustments relating to the removal of non-recurrent requirements; (b) new mandates and inter-component changes; and (c) resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reductions). The proposed reductions will not impact full and effective mandate implementation.

33.13 The distribution of resources is reflected in tables 33.2 to 33.4 below.

Table 33.2 **Financial resources by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Regular budget

Component	2012-2013 expenditure	2014-2015 appropriation	Resource changes: Technical adjustment (non-recurrent, biennial provision of posts)	Resource changes: New mandates and inter-component changes	Resource changes: Further reductions in line with resolution 69/264	Resource changes: Efficiencies in line with resolution 69/264	Total resource change	Percentage	Total before recosting	Recosting	2016-2017 estimate
A. Alteration and improvement											
1. Headquarters	11 994.4	5 190.7	–	1 138.2	–	–	1 138.2	21.9	6 328.9	294.5	6 623.4
2. Geneva	4 481.9	48 594.5	(44 532.1)	(303.5)	(6.5)	–	(44 842.1)	(92.3)	3 752.4	4.5	3 756.9
3. Vienna	2 665.3	2 160.3	–	(55.6)	(10.6)	–	(66.2)	(3.1)	2 094.1	27.5	2 121.6
4. Nairobi	2 652.1	3 515.1	–	(750.1)	(10.0)	–	(760.1)	(21.6)	2 755.0	268.3	3 023.3
5. ESCAP	2 571.5	2 052.6	–	8 416.6	(12.8)	–	8 403.8	409.4	10 456.4	909.7	11 366.1
6. ECLAC	926.2	984.7	–	385.8	–	–	385.8	39.2	1 370.5	87.7	1 458.2
7. ECA	1 899.4	4 367.6	(2 126.2)	13 446.9	–	–	11 320.7	259.2	15 688.3	2 552.0	18 240.3
8. ESCWA	100.5	5 426.6	(5 353.8)	52.8	–	–	(5 301.0)	(97.7)	125.6	10.3	135.9
Subtotal, A	**27 291.3**	**72 292.1**	**(52 012.1)**	**22 331.1**	**(39.9)**	**–**	**(29 720.9)**	**(41.1)**	**42 571.2**	**4 154.5**	**46 725.7**
B. Major maintenance											
1. Headquarters	11 390.6	11 191.5	–	1 173.4	(48.4)	–	1 125.0	10.1	12 316.5	573.1	12 889.6
2. Geneva	14 361.1	11 127.9	–	303.5	(67.5)	–	236.0	2.1	11 363.9	12.5	11 376.4
3. Vienna	1 035.1	1 295.3	–	(54.2)	(6.2)	–	(60.4)	(4.7)	1 234.9	16.3	1 251.2
4. Nairobi	2 854.2	2 961.2	–	750.1	(21.5)	–	728.6	24.6	3 689.8	359.5	4 049.3
5. ESCAP	710.2	583.0	–	583.4	–	–	583.4	100.1	1 166.4	96.4	1 262.8
6. ECLAC	1 466.9	1 555.7	–	(385.8)	(12.4)	–	(398.2)	(25.6)	1 157.5	74.1	1 231.6
7. ECA	1 111.3	1 922.8	–	(698.9)	(20.3)	–	(719.2)	(37.4)	1 203.6	187.2	1 390.8
8. ESCWA	313.3	409.2	–	57.0	(2.4)	–	54.6	13.3	463.8	37.9	501.7
Subtotal, B	**33 242.7**	**31 046.6**	**–**	**1 728.5**	**(178.7)**	**–**	**1 549.8**	**5.0**	**32 596.4**	**1 357.0**	**33 953.4**
C. United Nations enterprise network	6 831.7	6 525.8	–	(2 311.6)	(63.2)	–	(2 374.8)	(36.4)	4 151.0	193.2	4 344.2
Total	**67 365.8**	**109 864.5**	**(52 012.1)**	**21 748.0**	**(281.8)**	**–**	**(30 545.9)**	**(27.8)**	**79 318.6**	**5 704.7**	**85 023.3**

Table 33.3 **Distribution of resources by component**

(Percentage)

	Regular budget
A. Alteration and improvement	53.7
B. Major maintenance	41.1
C. United Nations enterprise network	5.2
Total	**100.0**

Technical adjustments

33.14 Resource changes reflect the removal of non-recurrent requirements totalling $52,012,100 approved in the biennium 2014-2015 relating to: (a) one-time provision ($44,532,100) for project activities relating to the strategic heritage plan, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 68/247 and 69/262; (b) one-time provision ($5,353,800) for the implementation of mitigation measures to strengthen the safety and security of staff at the Economic and Social Commission for West Asia in Beirut, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/247 B; and (c) one-time provision for consultancy services relating to the renovation of the Africa Hall Building ($2,126,200), as approved in General Assembly resolution 69/262.

New mandates and inter-component changes

33.15 Resources in the amount of $21,748,000 have been requested to reflect: (a) additional resources proposed for the renovation of Africa Hall Building, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/262 ($12,748,000); (b) provisions for the seismic mitigation and replacement project in ESCAP ($9,000,000), pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/274; and (c) redistribution of resources between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) and the United Nations enterprise network (component C) to reflect the anticipated operational needs for the biennium 2016-2017, with no net impact upon the overall provision requested.

Resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264 (further reductions)

33.16 Resource changes of $281,800 are proposed, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264, in relation to Alteration and improvement ($39,900), Major maintenance ($178,700) and United Nations enterprise network ($63,200) that take into account further reductions that the various offices plan to bring about in the biennium 2016-2017.

Composition of proposed activities

33.17 Section 33 undergoes reprogramming, including reprioritization, by programme managers each biennium because it contains a portfolio of programme activities, only a portion of which give rise to recurrent requirements for maintenance, with the remainder being new or multi-year projects for specific capital work. Each proposed programme budget for a new biennium reflects the completion of non-recurrent activities and the introduction of newly programmed, non-recurrent activities in their place.

33.18 Table 33.4 below subcategorizes the resource requirements related to projects proposed under the present section under alteration and improvement and major maintenance into: (a) deferred activity; (b) multi-year phased projects; (c) recurrent projects; or (d) new activity. The breakdown by subcategory allows the aggregate portfolio of activities proposed under section 33 to be viewed in terms of nature and duration.

Table 33.4 **Nature and duration of projects proposed for the biennium 2016-2017 by duty station (before recosting)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Description	*Headquarters*	*Geneva*	*Vienna*	*Nairobi*	*ESCAP*	*ECLAC*	*ECA*	*ESCWA*	*Total*
A. Alteration and improvement									
Deferred activity from prior period(s)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Multi-year phased projects	3 630.0	1 747.4	–	1 322.4	9 300.0*	593.1	15 363.3	–	31 956.2
Recurrent activities	2 499.5	–	2 094.1	250.0	–	55.0	325.0	125.6	5 349.2
New activity for 2016-2017	199.4	2 005.0	–	1 182.6	1 156.4	722.4	–	–	5 265.8
Subtotal, A	**6 328.9**	**3 752.4**	**2 094.1**	**2 755.0**	**10 456.4**	**1 370.5**	**15 688.3**	**125.6**	**42 571.2**
B. Major maintenance									
Deferred activity from prior period(s)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Multi-year phased projects	–	4 354.3	–	959.0	–	621.0	–	–	5 934.3
Recurrent activities	12 316.5	5 152.1	1 234.9	2 339.8	–	125.6	350.0	463.8	21 982.7
New activity for 2016-2017	–	1 857.5	–	391.0	1 166.4	410.9	853.6	–	4 679.4
Subtotal, B	**12 316.5**	**11 363.9**	**1 234.9**	**3 689.8**	**1 166.4**	**1 157.5**	**1 203.6**	**463.8**	**32 596.4**
C. United Nations enterprise network									
Recurrent activities	4 151.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4 151.0
Total	**22 796.4**	**15 116.3**	**3 329.0**	**6 444.8**	**11 622.8**	**2 528.0**	**16 891.9**	**589.4**	**79 318.6**

* The amount includes $9,000,000 in respect of the proposed seismic mitigation and life-cycle replacement project for the biennium 2016-2017, which would be a significant multi-year phased activity. The project would be new activity, although resource requirements for evaluation, feasibility and engineering studies have been approved under the programme budget for previous bienniums.

33.19 As illustrated in table 33.4 above, a number of the projects for which resources are requested under the present section for the biennium 2016-2017 represent the start or continuation of multi-year projects ($37,890,500), for example the renovation of Africa Hall Building (ECA) and the seismic mitigation and life-cycle replacement project (ESCAP).

33.20 As regards provisions for recurrent activity ($31,482,900) these are predominantly under major maintenance ($21,982,700), with a relatively small amount under alteration and improvement ($5,349,200) together with the enterprise-wide information technology requirements under the United Nations enterprise network ($4,151,000). The remainder of the resources requested represent new activity for the biennium 2016-2017 ($9,945,200).

Other information

33.21 The proposals set out above should be considered in the context of the value (excluding land) of United Nations-owned buildings and premises. The most recent valuation of United Nations-owned buildings, by duty station, is set out in annex I to the report on the strategic capital review (A/69/760).

A. Alteration, improvement and major maintenance programmes

1. Headquarters

Resource requirements (before recosting): $18,645,400

33.22 The total provision of $18,645,400 at Headquarters consists of $6,328,900 for alteration and improvement, with approximately 57.4 per cent of the proposals being multi-year phased projects, 39.5 per cent being recurrent projects and 3.2 per cent being new projects; and $12,316,500 for major maintenance activity, all of which is recurrent.

33.23 As regards alteration and improvement, a provision of $6,328,900 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	199 400
(b) Improvement to information and communications technology infrastructure	6 129 500
Total	**6 328 900**

33.24 As regards major maintenance, a provision of $12,316,500 would cover the requirements for the maintenance of Headquarters premises and can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	8 229 900
(b) Major maintenance of conference facilities and related infrastructure	404 200
(c) Major maintenance of safety and security installations	3 682 400
Total	**12 316 500**

33.25 The total provision of $18,645,400 reflects a net increase of $2,263,200, or 13.8 per cent, compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015. The net increase results from the combined effect of: (a) inward redeployment of $2,311,600 from United Nations enterprise network (component C) to provide for the increased requirements for enterprise storage system upgrades and replacement of servers ($1,138,200) under Alteration and improvement (component A), and the increased requirements for the maintenance of information technology ($1,173,400) parts of the safety and security systems for the Headquarters complex, under Major maintenance (component B); marginally offset by (b) reductions of $48,400, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.

2. United Nations Office at Geneva

Resource requirements (before recosting): $15,116,300

33.26 The total provision of $15,116,300 for the United Nations Office at Geneva consists of $3,752,400 for alteration and improvement, with approximately 46.6 per cent being multi-year phased projects and 53.4 per cent being new projects, and $11,363,900 for major maintenance projects, with approximately 38.3 per cent being multi-year phased projects, 45.4 per cent being recurrent projects and 16.3 per cent being new projects.

33.27 The selection of the proposed requirements for the forthcoming biennium 2016-2017 has been made in a strategic and planned manner, with a view to ensuring that the work would not need to

be repeated in the context of the strategic heritage plan, should the General Assembly authorize its commencement. The selection of the proposed requirements took into consideration the considerable maintenance challenges faced and the necessity to:

(a) Ensure the health, safety and security of the delegates, staff, contractors and visitors at the Palais;

(b) Maintain business continuity and the operability of the buildings at the Palais, and reduce the risk of failure, closure of conference rooms, and interruption of meeting sessions, and continue to provide conference facilities to Member States;

(c) Make the appropriate investment in the regular upkeep of the current infrastructure maintenance in order to avoid more costly intervention in the future;

(d) Enhance the efficient and effective use of available space in the Palais by maximizing its office accommodation capacity to consolidate more entities in the Palais grounds and reduce the operating cost.

33.28 The total provision reflects a decrease of $44,606,100 as compared to the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015, which reflects: (a) the removal of non-recurrent requirements ($44,532,100) approved for the biennium 2014-2015 for activities relating to the strategic heritage plan; and (b) further reduction ($74,000), in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264. Resource requirements ($303,500) are proposed to be redeployed between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) for Geneva, to better reflect the operational needs for the biennium, with no net impact on the overall level of the proposed provision.

33.29 As regards alteration and improvement, a provision of $3,752,400 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	2 005 000
(b) Improvement to the information and communications technology infrastructure	1 317 400
(c) Improvement of facilities for persons with disabilities	430 000
Total	**3 752 400**

33.30 As regards major maintenance, a provision of $11,363,900 would cover activities in the areas of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, accessible toilets with sanitary columns, electrical systems maintenance, repair works on waterproofing and thermal insulation systems, and urgent structural and architectural maintenance, including the replacement of elevators, repair of roof cornices and stone façade and other maintenance, in order to ensure the reliability of the premises and the safety of delegates, staff and visitors. The provision under major maintenance can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	7 787 000
(b) Major maintenance of safety and security installations	3 576 900
Total	**11 363 900**

3. United Nations Office at Vienna

Resource requirements (before recosting): $3,329,000

33.31 The total provision of $3,329,000 consists of $2,094,100 for alteration and improvement, with 100 per cent being recurrent projects; and $1,234,900 for major maintenance, also entirely for recurrent projects.

33.32 The resources requested for the biennium 2016-2017 would cover the share of the United Nations Office at Vienna of the cost of improving and maintaining the Vienna International Centre, which is managed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on a cost-shared basis through an agreement between the organizations based at the Centre and the host Government (with regard to major maintenance projects). The requested amount is calculated on the basis of the current share of the United Nations Office at Vienna, which is 22.67[2] per cent of the total alteration, improvement, and major maintenance requirements.

33.33 The total provision reflects a net decrease of $126,600, or 3.7 per cent, compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015, owing to the updated assessment for the alteration and improvement and major maintenance works.

33.34 With regard to alteration and improvement, a provision of $2,094,100 would cover the contribution of the United Nations Office at Vienna to the Common Buildings Management Fund based on the agreement between the organizations based at the Vienna International Centre.

33.35 The provision under alteration and improvement can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Cost-shared improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	2 094 100
Total	**2 094 100**

33.36 As regards major maintenance, a provision of $1,234,900 would cover the contribution of the United Nations Office at Vienna to the Common Fund for Financing Major Repairs and Replacements based on the agreement between the host Government and the organizations based at the Vienna International Centre. The provision under major maintenance can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Cost-shared major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	1 234 900
Total	**1 234 900**

[2] This represents the same level as biennium 2014-2015 and a decrease from the level of 22.843 per cent applied for the biennium 2012-2013. The ratio is calculated on the basis of a composite of the space, staff and workload of the four organizations in determining the respective share of the costs.

4. United Nations Office at Nairobi

Resource requirements (before recosting): $6,444,800

33.37 The total provision of $6,444,800 consists of $2,755,000 for alteration and improvement, with 48.0 per cent being multi-year phased projects, 42.9 per cent new projects and 9.1 per cent being recurrent projects; and $3,689,800 for major maintenance, with 26.0 per cent being multi-year phased projects, 10.6 per cent new projects and 63.4 per cent being recurrent projects.

33.38 The total provision reflects a decrease of $31,500 or 0.5 per cent, compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015. The decrease reflects further reductions, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264. Resource requirements ($750,100) are proposed to be redeployed between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) for Nairobi, to better reflect the operational needs for the biennium, with no net impact on the overall level of the proposed provision.

33.39 With regard to alteration and improvement, the provision of $2,755,000 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	2 555 000
(b) Improvement to the information and communications technology infrastructure	200 000
Total	**2 755 000**

33.40 With regard to major maintenance, a provision of $3,689,800 would cover work on electrical systems; structural, civil and plumbing maintenance; replacement of fire remedials; fire and portable water upgrades; and oxidation pond rehabilitation. The provision can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	1 753 200
(b) Major maintenance of safety and security installations	1 936 600
Total	**3 689 800**

5. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Resource requirements (before recosting): $11,622,800

33.41 The total provision of $11,622,800 consists of $10,456,400 for alteration and improvement, with approximately 88.9 per cent being multi-year phased projects and 11.1 per cent being new projects; and $1,166,400 for major maintenance, which are recurrent activities, by nature, but consist of individual new projects for the biennium 2016-2017.

33.42 The total provision reflects a net increase of $8,987,200 compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015. The increase is due to the proposed start of the initial phase of the seismic mitigation and life-cycle replacement project to remedy the potential failure of the building's structural components under seismic loads ($9,000,000), pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/274, offset by a marginal reduction ($12,800), in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264. It is proposed that resource requirements ($583,400) be redeployed between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) for the Commission, to better

reflect the operational needs for the biennium, with no net impact on the overall level of the proposed provision.

33.43 With regard to alteration and improvement, a provision of $10,456,400 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Proposed seismic mitigation and life-cycle replacement project	9 000 000
(b) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	148 000
(c) Improvement to the information and communications technology infrastructure	218 400
(d) Improvement to conference facilities and related infrastructure	440 000
(e) Improvement of safety and security installations	650 000
Total	**10 456 400**

33.44 As regards major maintenance, a provision of $1,166,400 would cover the following repair of building and replacement of major equipment:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	325 400
(b) Major maintenance of conference facilities and related infrastructure	841 000
Total	**1 166 400**

33.45 With regard to the seismic mitigation and life-cycle replacement project, the requested resources of $9,000,000 for the biennium 2016-2017 relate to the costs for the proposed first phase of the project, which comprise the establishment of a project management team, consultancy costs and the start of construction work to create swing space. The preliminary project plan, as indicated in the report on the strategic capital review (A/69/760, fig. I), was to execute the construction work over multiple bienniums. The indicative timeline is being re-examined to determine whether the project duration can be compressed. Detailed information on the scope, schedule and total cost of the proposed project will be included in the report of the Secretary-General to be presented to the General Assembly for its consideration at the main part of the seventieth session.

6. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Resource requirements (before recosting): $2,528,000

33.46 The total provision of $2,528,000 consists of $1,370,500 for alteration and improvement, with approximately 43.3 per cent being multi-year phased projects, 4.0 per cent being recurrent projects, and 52.7 per cent being new projects; and $1,157,500 for major maintenance, with approximately 53.7 per cent being multi-year phased projects, 10.9 per cent being recurrent projects and 35.5 per cent being new projects.

33.47 The total provision reflects a decrease of $12,400, as compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015, which relates to further reductions, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264. It is proposed that resource requirements ($385,800) be redeployed between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) for the Commission, to better reflect the operational needs for the biennium, with no net impact on the overall level of the proposed provision.

33.48 With regard to alteration and improvement, the provision of $1,370,500 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	1 259 800
(b) Improvement of facilities for persons with disabilities	55 700
(c) Improvement of safety and security installations	55 000
Total	**1 370 500**

33.49 With regard to major maintenance, a provision of $1,157,500 would cover the maintenance and cleaning of the Main Building façade, the functional retrofitting of the Printing Building, the replacement of the plumbing and sewage infrastructure, and the maintenance of security systems. The provision under major maintenance can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	518 500
(b) Major maintenance of safety and security installations	639 000
Total	**1 157 500**

7. Economic Commission for Africa

Resource requirements (before recosting): $16,891,900

33.50 The total provision of $16,891,900 consists of $15,688,300 for alteration and improvement, with approximately 97.9 per cent being multi-year phased projects and 2.1 per cent being recurrent projects; and $1,203,600 for major maintenance, with 29.1 per cent being recurrent projects and 70.9 per cent being new projects.

33.51 The total provision reflects an increase of $10,601,500, compared with the resources at revised rates for the biennium 2014-2015. The net increase reflects: (a) removal of the non-recurrent requirements relating to the renovation of the Africa Hall Building during the biennium 2014-2015 ($2,126,200); (b) further reductions ($20,300), in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264; (c) additional non-recurrent resources proposed for the renovation of the Africa Hall Building during the biennium 2016-2017 ($12,748,000), pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/262. It is proposed that resource requirements ($698,900) be redeployed between Alteration and improvement (component A) and Major maintenance (component B) for the Commission, to better reflect the operational needs for the biennium, with no net impact on the overall level of the proposed provision.

33.52 With regard to alteration and improvement, a provision of $15,688,300 would cover the following:

(United States dollars)

(a) Africa Hall renovation project	12 748 000
(b) Improvement of facilities and general infrastructure	1 000 000
(c) Improvement to conference facilities and related infrastructure	1 615 300
(d) Improvement of safety and security installations	325 000
Total	**15 688 300**

33.53 With regard to major maintenance, a provision of $1,203,600 would cover the maintenance of the United Nations Conference Centre building, maintenance of facilities at the subregional offices and security maintenance. The provision under major maintenance can be summarized as follows:

(United States dollars)

(a) Major maintenance of facilities and general infrastructure	953 600
(b) Major maintenance of safety and security installations	250 000
Total	**1 203 600**

8. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Resource requirements (before recosting): $589,400

33.54 The provision of $589,400 is for (a) major maintenance for the security facilities installed under the implementation of the standardized access control project, being a recurrent project ($463,800); and (b) improvements to the physical components of the security systems, including the replacement of four crash barriers ($125,600).

33.55 The total provision reflects a decrease of $5,246,400, as compared with the appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015, which relates to the net effect of: (a) removal of the one-time provision ($5,353,800) for the mitigation measures to strengthen the safety and security of staff at ESCWA in Beirut, approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/247 B (sect. VI, para. 3); (b) further reductions ($2,400), in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264; offset by (c) marginal increases to improve other physical components of the security systems ($52,800), together with a full biennial provision for contractual maintenance costs for the standardized access control systems ($57,000), following the expiration of the vendor warranty in March 2014.

33.56 With regard to the mitigation measures to strengthen the premises in Beirut, the Commission is mindful of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/68/808, para. 13) that the Secretary-General make every effort to shorten the project timeline without compromising the quality of the construction work and the safety of staff. The Commission is pleased to report that the replacement of the blast window film has been completed ahead of schedule. In regard to the other two stages of the project, namely, the installation of the cable catchment system and the façade retrofit, procurement is well under way and the project is on track to be completed by the end of 2015 within budget. The final expenditures for the project will be reported to the General Assembly at its seventieth session in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

33.57 The Advisory Committee also recommended that the Secretary-General intensify his engagement with the host country in order to find a lasting solution to the issue of a new permanent location for the Commission's headquarters (see A/68/808, para. 9). In that regard, although there is a strong commitment from the host country to find a solution to the issue of a new permanent location for the Commission's headquarters, the political situation in Lebanon has not allowed for a successful resolution to the issue to date.

B. United Nations enterprise network

Resource requirements (before recosting): $4,151,000

33.58 The enterprise network project, administered by the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Department of Management, principally comprised the Internet protocol telephony system upgrade project, which will be completed at the end of 2015, since global implementation began in the biennium 2004-2005. The need to support enterprise network infrastructure continues under the purview of the Office, which determines the related resource requirements. Following a review conducted by the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the current state of the network infrastructure and technical requirements in all offices away from Headquarters and at regional commissions, a provision of $4,151,000 is proposed for the biennium 2016-2017 to cover three major requirements, as follows:

(a) An amount of $1,566,600 to replace equipment purchased in the previous biennium that is obsolete and has reached its end of life. Priority funding will be given to ECA and the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

(b) An amount of $2,300,200 for the existing consolidated maintenance contract at United Nations Headquarters in New York, offices away from Headquarters and regional commissions. In the previous bienniums, the Office of Information and Communications Technology expanded the maintenance contract to cover all of the major duty stations and regional commissions. This contract will ensure full coverage of network and telephone equipment and guarantee the same level of service at each duty station. The Headquarters portion of the contract will continue to be funded under section 29 E, Office of Information and Communications Technology;

(c) An amount of $284,200 for maintenance and renewal of checkpoint firewall software in seven duty stations. With the increased reliance on the global network, the Organization must keep its firewalls updated in order to protect the entire network from attacks and data leakage. Since security is only as good as its weakest link, the Office of Information and Communications Technology continues to centrally plan for the maintenance and renewal of checkpoint firewall software at seven duty stations.

33.59 The total provision of $4,151,000 reflects a decrease of $2,374,800, which is attributable to: (a) the outward redeployment of resources in the total amount of $2,311,600, following the completion of the enterprise network project in 2015 to Alteration and improvement (component A) to provide for the increased requirements of upgrades to enterprise storage systems and replacement of servers ($1,138,200) and to Major maintenance (component B) to provide for the increased maintenance costs for the information technology components of the security and safety systems for the United Nations Headquarters complex ($1,173,400) and (b) further reductions in the amount of $63,200, in line with General Assembly resolution 69/264.